

Jim Doyle Governor

Helene Nelson Secretary

State of Wisconsin

Department of Health and Family Services

1 WEST WILSON STREET P O BOX 309 MADISON WI 53701-0309

Telephone: 608-266-8922 FAX: 608-266-1096 TTY: 608-261-7798 dhfs.wisconsin.gov

Dear Prescribing Provider:

July 15, 2004

As a convenience, cost savings and quality improvement measure, Wisconsin Medicaid is encouraging recipients to receive a 100-day supply of certain maintenance drugs. Recipients can receive a 100-day supply either directly or via mail from their pharmacy. This initiative will reduce the cost of copayments to recipients and will promote continuity in the use of maintenance drugs.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare and SeniorCare allow a limited number of maintenance drugs to be dispensed in a 100-day supply to assure continuity of use for certain necessary medications. The following list of maintenance drugs may be dispensed in amounts up to a 100-day supply.

Maintenance Drugs Allowed in 100-Day Supply

- Digoxin, digitoxin, and digitalis
- Hydrochlorothiazide and chlorothiazide
- Prenatal vitamins
- Fluoride
- Levothyroxine, liothyronine, and thyroid extract
- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin
- Oral contraceptives
- Insulins
- Generic oral hypoglycemic drugs

Writing Prescription Orders

In order for pharmacy providers to dispense these maintenance drugs in a 100-day supply, prescribers must indicate on the prescription order the appropriate quantity to be given to the recipient. For example, if a prescription order is written for Phenytoin 100 mg. capsules, take one capsule three times daily, the pharmacy may dispense up to 300 capsules as long as that is the quantity indicated on the prescription order.

Prescribers are encouraged to write prescription orders for these maintenance drugs to allow for a 100-day supply when appropriate for the recipient. Prescribers may also be contacted by

Prescribing Provider July 15, 2004 Page 2

pharmacies that dispense these maintenance drugs to Medicaid recipients. The pharmacy may request that a recipient's prescription order be changed to allow for a 100-day supply.

This policy applies to Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare fee-for-service (FFS) recipients as well as SeniorCare participants. Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) must cover all drugs covered by FFS, but are allowed to place their own restrictions on those drugs. Therefore, Medicaid recipients who are enrolled in an MCO may have different day supply requirements than FFS.

Thank you for your assistance in making the Medicaid program more cost-effective.

If you have any additional questions, please call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Moody Administrator

MBM:my HP05042